

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 SAN JO 03170 291923Z

10

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SEC-01

JUSE-00 SAM-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /059 W

----- 116425

R 291740Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 983

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN JOSE 3170

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PGOV PFOR CS

SUBJ: PRESIDENT ODUBER SPEAKS ON VESCO FOR CBS

1. DJRING JULY 24 INTERVIEW WITH CBS IN SAN JOSE,
PRESIDENT ODUBER WAS ASKED ABOUT VESCO AND ABOUT
CURRENT COSTA RICAN EXTRADITION LAW.

2. PRESIDENT STATED THAT VESCO "HAS INVESTED MONEY--
EITHER HIS OR NOT HIS--IN SEVERAL CLEAN ACTIVITIES IN
COSTA RICA," ADDING THAT GOCR HAS "FOLLOWED HIS
INVESTMENTS CLOSELY." PRESIDENT ALSO SAID THAT HE
HAS RECEIVED REPRESENTATIVES OF MUTUAL FUNDS THAT
VESCO HAS MANAGED. HE CONTINUED THAT COSTA RICAN
COURTS "ARE OPEN TO ANY SUIT THAT WILL TRY TO RECUPERATE
THOSE INVESTMENTS IN COSTA RICA AND TO PUT THEM IN THE
HANDS OF WHOEVER BECOMES THE REAL PROPRIETOR."

3. REGARDING CRIMINAL CHARGES, THE PRESIDENT STATED THAT
"IF VESCO IS INDICTED IN THE U.S. AND IS CONDEMNED,
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 SAN JO 03170 291923Z

AND EXTRADITION IS PRESENTED IN THE RIGHT WAY THROUGH

OUR TRIBUNALS, VESCO WILL BE SENT TO THE U.S...." HE ADDED THAT THE COSTA RICAN SUPREME COURT HAS THE LAST WORD IN THIS MATTER, AND THAT IT IS STRONG, INDEPENDENT, AND RESPECTED. HE STATED THAT THE GOCR IS ABSOLUTELY HELPLESS TO TAKE VESCO, PUT HIM ON A PLANE, AND SEND HIM TO THE U.S., OR TO DO ANYTHING AGAINST THE COUNTRY'S COURT SYSTEM. HE SAID THAT PEOPLE HAVE BEEN PRESSURING HIM FOR VESCO'S EXPULSION, BUT THAT HE DID NOT HAVE REASON--"AS LONG AS HE BEHAVES HIMSELF AND RESPECTS COSTA RICAN LAW"--FOR SUCH ACTION. HE CONCLUDED THAT MUTUAL FUNDS SHAREHOLDERS SHOULD FEEL GUARANTEED KNOWING THEIR INVESTMENTS ARE IN COSTA RICA SINCE THERE IS AMPLE PROTECTION AND RECOURSE UNDER COSTA RICAN LAW.

4. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION ABOUT THE "VESCO LAW," PRESIDENT ODUBER STATED "MANY THINGS HAVE BEEN SAID BY NEWSPAPERS AND THE NEWS MEDIA AND THE SEC IN THE U.S.--THAT IS WHAT WE CALL HERE THE WATERGATE SYNDROME. EVERYBODY WAS PERSECUTING EVERYBODY--THEY DON'T KNOW WHO ELSE TO PERSECUTE IN THE STATES. I RESPECT THE U.S.; I WORRY ABOUT THE SYNDROME. I THINK THE TIME HAS COME TO CEASE TO THINK ABOUT PERSECUTION AND INVESTIGATION BECAUSE YOU ARE WEAKENING FAITH IN AUTHORITY AND THIS IS DANGEROUS. A BIG SCANDAL IS MADE, AND EVERYTHING INVENTED SO THAT A LEAF COULD NOT MOVE IN COSTA RICA WITHOUT VESCO BEHIND IT." PRESIDENT POINTED OUT TO THE CBS CORRESPONDENT THAT THE MEDIA TENDS TO MAKE A BIG SCANDAL OUT OF THINGS SUCH AS THESE. HE CONCLUDED THAT COSTA RICA IS VERY CALM AND THAT HE WOULD BE "VERY INTERESTED TO SEE THE SUITS COME IN AND BE PRESENTED TO THE COSTA RICAN SUPREME COURT."

5. THE FILMED INTERVIEW WAS CONDUCTED IN ENGLISH. CBS CORRESPONDENT IS HOPEFUL THAT IT WILL BE CARRIED SOMEHOW ON HIS NETWORK.

6. OTHER ANSWERS COVERING THE RIO TREATY MEETING, COSTA RICAN RECOGNITION OF CUBA, SELA, PANAMA, AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 SAN JO 03170 291923Z

RETIRED U.S. RESIDENTS BEING REPORTED SEPARATELY.
TODMAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN INVESTMENT, EXTRADITION, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SANJO03170
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750262-0154
From: SAN JOSE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750712/aaaaaktl.tel
Line Count: 109
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <26 NOV 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT ODUBER SPEAKS ON VESCO FOR CBS
TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, CS, (ODUBER QUIROS, DANIEL), (VESCO, ROBERT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006